



Press Release

Commander, Navy Installations Command

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CNI Brings Medical Assistance to Damaged Installations

With the devastation that Hurricane Katrina has left in her wake, there is great concern at Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNI) over disease and other medical issues at CNI installations. CNI has brought a medical officer onboard from the Bureau of Medicine (BUMED) to act as the liaison between CNI and BUMED on medical issues. Cmdr. Wesley Farr, MC, USNR, the temporary liaison, said "CNI will be responsible for utilities, water, ice and sanitation at the installations. We will provide the support to get operations going again."

The military and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) are working together to get the installations up and running again. FEMA has set up a temporary medical clinic at Meridian, Miss. The other installations involved have had damage, but some are back up according to Farr. "The clinic at Pascagoula was severely damaged and a temporary clinic has been set up. Personnel from Naval Hospital Pensacola, Fla., have been sent to provide help. Gulfport, Miss., is at full capability and New Orleans is

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operating at limited capability.”he said. “The biggest loss is that Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. is not operational. It is the hospital for the Gulfport and Pascagoula areas. Any patients requiring hospitalization would have to go to the Naval Hospital Pensacola,” he added.